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Andrew Price, Editor

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Will visit Pocahontas County at least twice a year. The exact date of his visit will appear in this paper.

DR. J. H. WEYMOUTH,
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ELKINS, W. VA.

Will visit Pocahontas County every spring and fall. The exact date of each visit will appear in The Times.

J. M. CUNNINGHAM, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

THE RECESSIONAL.

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

God of our fathers known of old—
Lord of our far-flung battle line,
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over pain and pine—
Lord, God of hosts be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies,
The captains and the kings depart;
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart!
God of our fathers be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

Far-called our navies melt away,
On dune and headland sinks the fire;
Lo! all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
Judge of the nations spare us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

If drunk with sight of power we loose
Wild tongues that have not thee in awe,
Such boasting as the Gentiles use,
Or lesser breeds without the law—
Lord, God of hosts be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

For heathen tube that puts its trust
In breathing tube and iron shard,
The valiant dust that builds a dust,
And guarding calls not thee to guard,
For idols cheat and foolish word
Thy mercy on thy people, Lord!

WHAT CHEAP INTEREST MEANS.

An item is going the rounds of some of the leading journals to the effect that gold for coinage in 1898 will be about twice the supply of both metals, silver and gold, available for coinage in 1888. Hence the congestion of the gold supply and the decrease in the rates of interest. From this it is reasoned that when the best money can be borrowed with good security at 2 1/2 per cent, money is cheap enough, and it is not reasonable, therefore, to have anything else for a substitute as a debt-payer in itself, as remonetized silver would be. This looks plausible, but at the same time it is open to suspicion and needs examination. Cheap interest awakens the suspicion that but little or no ordinary property is good security. Such interest is a sign that property values are so uncertain and liable to injurious fluctuation, that financiers and shrewd business persons do not feel it safe to make investments in property, nor improve ordinary property. What the ordinary business people need is not cheap interest on money so much as for the financial theories of legislation to be on such a line as to put the finances in a shape to enable our industrious people to engage in their pursuits with a prospect of being sure of realizing some profit upon their undertakings. They would be sure or have good reason for feeling assured that if they purchase property this year it will be worth as much or something more a year hence.

Cautions people can not help feeling that there must be danger in cheap interest. The increasing gold means more than a mere glut at the money centres. It means that those whose who have it are under the influence of some spell that prevents the people who have the gold from using it in the ordinary channels of business, and thus spellbound, use their gold to made loans upon or invest it only in that form of securities which give them a lien upon the industry and property of a county, city, state, or even the whole nation.

The congestion of gold in the bank vaults is a certain sign that the people at large are distressingly scarce of gold, and so cheap interest means hard times for them whatever the times may be with those who have the vault keys and control at will the circulating medium.

SOMETHING ABOUT CHURCH-GOERS AND OTHER ITEMS.

A huge volume just published by the government is regarded in its way one of the most remarkable works ever compiled and issued. It is called a Statistical Atlas.

In reference to persons attending public worship it is stated that nearly one-third of the church-goers of the United States are Roman Catholics; considerably more than one-fifth are Methodists, more than one-sixth are Baptist; one church-goer in sixteen is a Presbyterian, and one in seventeen is a Lutheran; one in thirty-nine is an Episcopalian, and in thirty-nine one is a congregationalist. The balance of the church-going people are split up into minor sects.

New Mexico is almost entirely

Roman Catholic; Arizona is three-quarters Catholic; Massachusetts, Wyoming, and Nevada are two-thirds Catholic; Connecticut, Colorado, and California are half Catholic. Methodists are strongest in Delaware, South Carolina, and Florida, numbering fifty per cent of the church goers. Baptists are most numerous in Mississippi, Georgia, and Virginia, claiming more than fifty per cent of the church attendants in those States. Twelve in every thirteen religious people in Utah prefer the Mormon faith; two in three are Mormons in Idaho, one in eleven in Nevada.

From the Statistical Atlas it appears that New Mexico is the most religious of the States, with 68 per cent of its population church communicants. Utah stands next with 62 per cent. The Mormons are first class church-goers for they think they know the best road to Heaven. Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut stand high with over forty per cent of the population in the church. Vermont falls much lower; New Hampshire has a record of 27 per cent; Maine records 25 per cent. The States showing the lowest rates are in the West, where the percentage of church attendants grades off to a lamentably small fraction.

The present centre of population at this time is near Westport, Indiana, and the centre of area of the United States is in Northern Kansas, so the centre of population is three-fourths of a degree south, and more than seventeen degrees east of the centre of area, leaving room for the centre of population to move yet farther westward. As to the number of inhabitants to a square mile Rhode Island stands highest with 320, and Kentucky ranks lowest with 48 to square mile.

A Big Haul.

A professional burglar has perfect confidence in his lawyer, and does not hesitate to tell him his adventures which are often odd. Two pals in crime told their lawyer the other day how they once robbed an old woman who had a little grocery store far down town. It was rumored that this woman kept a good deal of cash by her, and to test the rumor's truth one of the wicked pals went to her shop to get a \$50 note changed, and she changed it. Afterward he went to her with a \$100 note, and she changed that, too. So one night they broke in on her—she held all alone and was in bed—and while one pal held her by her withered, shrunken throat and at the same time kept a cocked revolver within an inch or two of her face, the other gallant pal ransacked the bureau drawers. After a while he spoke gleefully and held up a pocket-book and a canvas bag full of coin. The other then advised the old woman not to stir till they were safe out, and they departed swiftly. The next thing to do was to count the plunder, and they hurried to their secret lair for this purpose. The pocket book contained 15 cents, and in the canvas bag were a lot of mutilated coins, and some handfuls of huge copper cents. The burglars laughed in telling their lawyer of this incident, but they assured him that they were in no mood for laughing at the time.—Philadelphia Record.

The Moral of the Maine Election.

The moral of the Maine election re-enforcing as it thus does that in Vermont, is plain. It shows that the "tidal wave" which rose in the Congressional elections of 1894 and swept everything before it in the national contest of 1896 has lost its force, and that the current already sets the other way. It demonstrates that the war as a piece of political strategy was worse than a failure. Not only has the McKinley Administration failed to gain anything by the victories in Manila Bay and at Santiago, but it now suffers discredit for the war by the aftermath of Algerism in its train. Not long before yesterday's election a Maine regiment returned home from a few weeks in a Southern camp, suffering terribly from disease, and telling shocking stories of their sufferings from their bad rations, the same experience which a Vermont regiment had endured. Popular disgust with the evidence, thus brought home to hundreds of families, that the war was fruitless in the grossest abuses obscures temporarily the glory of the victories, and leaves the Administration worse off to-day than if there had been no war.—New York Evening Post.

County Sketches.

V.

THE SPEAK EASY MAN.

The word speak-easy is recognized by the Standard Dictionary, which defines it as a saloon where liquor is sold without a license. It is a slang word, originated one day by a man with an American mind which recognized the fact that a name was lacking for this particular trade. It fell in fertile soil, and when millions of people had adopted it, it became a word and the dignified college

did the 'S' in the Standard Dictionary found he could not ignore a pet word of the people and he gave it rank by embodying it in the dictionary, and now it can hold up its head with the best of them.

The speak-easy man is the natural product of a local option county. If the county is wealthy and populous there will be prosperous drug stores where liquor is sold as a medicine, but in sparsely settled communities the speak-easy man springs up and he has but one trouble—that of keeping liquor in stock. People that can not buy bread find money to buy liquor, coffee, and tobacco. The supply is soon exhausted, and therein lies the illicit seller's greatest danger. A customer comes along and is told that the liquor is out. A dark suspicion is originated at once that he is not considered a trusty man, and wreaks his vengeance by indicting him in several cases before the next grand jury. But most of the customers throw their mind out of gear when they are called to testify.

An erratic genius once established a memory clearing house. Anybody who knew any thing which he wished to forget would submit to the process and it was remembered no more by him. It would seem that a good many had weeded out all recollection of buying anything to drink whatever. In vain the foreman of the grand jury endeavors to draw the desired information. The witness refuses to indict anybody, and that is the end of it.

For those who use at one of these places, tracking up and down the shady hollows at night or having important business in the neighborhood of the speak-easy in the day time, it is considered a great calamity to be called before the grand jury, but nine out of ten of them go through the ordeal—and the liquor has been sold—few indictments are found, owing either to the reticence of the witness or the leniency of the grand jury.

There is a tale of a lawyer once bluffing the foreman of the grand jury and being let go without answering. This particular foreman was a little nervous as the spokesman, and when he asked the usual question "Bought any liquor within a year?" the lawyer looked very grave and professional and asked the foreman to please put his question in legal form. The foreman protested feebly, for he was afraid of showing his ignorance and never being foreman again, but the lawyer was very firm and insisted that he be a little more specific, and not having a very good idea what that word meant, the grand jury proceeded to call the next witness.

It is a wonder that more indictments are not found. The speak-easy man arms himself with a United States license costing \$12, and this means he will have to sell about 240 drinks to get profit enough to pay back that expenditure, but the direct testimony is lacking, and the defiant witness boldly tells the grand jury that they can not get blood out of a turnip. The legislature ought to pass a law, if they really object to persons retailing spirituous liquors without a State license therefor, making the possession of a United States license prima facie evidence of the violation of the State laws against such retailing. Then the authorities could prepare an indictment stating that the liquor had been sold to Richard Roe and John Doe, two delightful fictitious

characters in law, and in support of the indictment offer in evidence the fact that he had paid \$12, or whatever considerable sum it costs, for a United States license, and then require the defendant to show that he had bought the little square license for wall paper or some other harmless purpose.

The President of Berea College wrote a magazine article about us as mountain whites, by which he means white people living in the mountains, we suppose, so we must accept the term. He said these mountain whites were fond of whiskey and other strong liquors.

continued to any particular point and that church people did a good deal of drinking in a decent way, and the rowdy class a good deal in a less decent way. We were about to object to this, until we had thought for a moment and remembered that a good many of our temperate persons did not object to drink in private on special occasions. Some of our sober citizens who had never been seen drunk kept jugs in their cornerbars, and went to get food for their horses in the morning and consolation for themselves. And it is not marvelous. The people of this section came down from a Scotch ancestry who drank whiskey on all solemn occasions, and it made them grand, gloomy, and peculiarly well fitted for the work they had to do. Sir Walter Scott speaks of mountain dew in the Waverley Novels, and we keep the same term alive.

It is not wonderful then that the speak-easy man finds friends at court. When he comes up for trial if he can see a man on his jury who has bought liquor of him he feels reasonably safe, tho' that particular juror must know how likely the charge against him is to be true.

A whiskey case was being tried in this county a good many years ago and the State witness who had been seduced to make the indictment was about to flicker. The prosecuting attorney to support his indictment picked a man out of the crowd in the court-room at random. He was one of the most prominent men of the county and at the time was sitting with the presiding judge as an intimate friend. He came to the witness-box very reluctantly and his testimony was to the effect that the prisoner, a short time before, had sent him a two-gallon jug of apple brandy, but whether he was to pay for it or not he could not say, but would be glad if they would put that question to the prisoner at that stage of the proceedings.

A typical license case was tried in this court some time since. The jury having been empaneled, the prisoner brightened perceptibly, prosecuting attorney settled down to his work to get a hung jury, and the spectators looked at the personnel of the jury and pitied the State. There were four or five men on the jury who, it was agreed, could not convict a man for violating Chapter 32, no matter how hard they tried. The result was as expected. The jury hung and was discharged, and it leaked out how they stood. As one of the jury came by, a visiting attorney of hunting proclivities shouted to him: "I do n't blame you a bit, for not wanting to spoil the lick!" The juror got mad and wanted to argue the case, but the lawyer persisted that he saw where he was right in not wanting "to spoil the lick."

Suicide in Court-room.

The dignity of the Supreme Court of Tennessee was recently disturbed in a very unusual fashion. A. R. Reynolds, an employee of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, who had been sentenced to six years in the penitentiary for defrauding his employers, was before the court on an appeal. The judgment was affirmed, and thereupon the prisoner stepped before the bench, drew a revolver from his pocket and calmly blew out his brains.

Judge Joshua Jump is running for a judgeship on the Indiana Superior Court. He is sippantly alluded to as "the ranting Jump."

THE HUDSONS.

Interesting Biographies of this Pocahontas Family.

W. T. P.

The Hudson family trace their ancestry to Richard Hudson, whose wife was Elizabeth Redden. They came from Augusta County early in the century, and virtually settled in the woods on the head waters of Sitlington's Creek on lands now held by their grand-sons, Warwick B. and John L. Hudson. This land was purchased from a Mr. Armstrong. A small opening had been made by one Poston previously.

Sally and Polly Hudson went to Ohio, and married and settled in that State.

Keziah Hudson, of whom the writer has no definite information more than that she was named after one of Job's daughters.

Rachel Hudson became Mrs. William Dysard and lived in Barbour County.

Matilda married Thomas Humphries and lived in Barbour County.

Naomi became Mrs. Samuel Matthews and lived in Randolph county. M. G. Matthews, late Superintendent of Pocahontas schools, Charles Matthews and Captain J. W. Matthews, of Alvon, West Virginia, are her sons.

Nancy first married John Seybert, of Highland County. Her second marriage was with Andrew Lockridge, of Bath County.

Thomas Hudson went to Missouri, and married and settled there.

Madison Hudson went to Maryland in his youth, and married and reared a large family. He prospered in business and was a citizen of prominence in neighborhood and county affairs.

Elijah Hudson married Margaret Deaver, daughter of James and Sally Deaver, who are believed to have been the first settlers on Back Alleghany. Mr and Mrs Hudson went to home keeping on the home place, and were the parents of five daughters and eight sons: Jackson, Thomas, William, Warwick Bird, Davis, Dallas, Paul McNeel, John Letcher, Sarah, Harriet, Laura, Nancy Jane and Susan. In reference to the daughters we learn the following particulars:

Sarah died in early youth.

Harriet became Mrs. John E. Gumm, and lives near Green Bank. Her children are Dolly Bell, now Mrs. Robert Ralston, in Highland; Nebraska, is Mrs. Oscar Orndorff; Margaret is at home; Charles went to Wisconsin; William located in Colorado, and was with a party of engineers when he lost his life; Warwick operates a lumber train in Upshur County.

Laura married Madison Humphries and lives near Phillippi.

Nancy Jane became Mrs. Levi Beverage and lives on Clover Creek, and is the mother of five sons and six daughters.

Susan is now Mrs. Uriah Bird and lives at Marlinton, and is the mother of seven daughters and a son.

In reference to Elijah Hudson's sons the following particulars are in hand:

William Hudson was a Union soldier, and settled in Missouri, where he married Maggie Palmer. They were the parents of four sons and one daughter. Their son Frank is in business in Oklahoma. William Hudson is an eminent physician and banker. He has prospered greatly in business and lives at Union Star, De Kalb Co., Missouri.

Paul McNeel Hudson also went to Missouri and married Eliza Livingston. They are both dead, and are survived by their daughter Mary.

Davis Hudson, a Union soldier, settled in the West.

Dallas Hudson, a gallant Confederate soldier, 31st Virginia Infantry, died in battle at Port Republic.

Warwick Bird Hudson married Nancy Galford, daughter of Thomas H. Galford, and lives on a part of the homestead. Their children are William Frank, Mary Roxana,

na, Jessie Arden and Rachel Cornelia Margaret. W. B. Hudson was a Confederate Lieutenant, 31st Virginia Infantry, and served in the war from start to finish.

John Letcher Hudson married Margaret Virginia Gillespie, a daughter of the late John Gillespie, and resides at the old homestead on Sidlington's Creek. They are the parents of six sons and six daughters: Marion Conner, Henry Harper, David Warden, Edward Arbuckle, Luther Gilbert, William McNeel, Ethel Gracie, Hattie Jane, Laura Mattie, Clara Margie, Lucy Elizabeth and Minnie Ruth.

enabled to illustrate in a measure the history of one of the oldest of Pocahontas families. It will be noticed that Elijah Hudson's descendants are the main representatives of the relationship now in our county. For this reason and others special mention is due his memory.

Elijah Hudson, Esq., represented Pocahontas in the Virginia Legislature, was a member of the Pocahontas Court, and transacted a great deal of neighborhood business, writing wills, deeds of conveyance, and articles of agreement. He was endowed with natural abilities of a high order, and he persistently made the most of his limited opportunities for mental improvement. During his life he taught many terms in the Old Field school house for the benefit of his neighbors and his own family.

He was a speaker of more than ordinary fluency. The writer heard him on but one occasion, in 1844. His manner was instructive and logical. The tones of his voice were soft as the notes of a flute, and his enunciation was so perfect that not a word need be misunderstood. His aim seemed to be to convince and instruct rather than to be amusing. It is the impression of some that he never cracked a joke in his life while making a political address. He seemed to take it for granted that every body was sensible like himself and liked to hear sensible speaking when the welfare of the country was in question. He had a large pair of saddle bags about full of books, political pamphlets and clippings from the news papers, to which he would frequently refer to illustrate and enforce the points he made. Taken altogether the effort was statesmanlike, and much above the political harangue so much in vogue at the time. He was a Jacksonian Democrat and an appreciative reader of the Richmond Enquirer.

He died after much intense suffering March 4, 1881, aged about 80 years. Mrs. Hudson survived her husband until December 31st, 1889, when she too passed away, aged about 83 years.

Late in life Mr Hudson became a member of the Liberty Church. He witnessed a very satisfactory, intelligent profession of his faith in the atoning blood of Jesus. The older people tell us that one of the most solemn scenes they ever saw at Liberty Church was when Elijah Hudson arose in the presence of the congregation, and with a contrite spirit and broken voice assumed his Christian vows before taking his place at the communion table, to take the cup of salvation and call upon his Lord and Redeemer.

A Valuable Dog.

As a variation from the snake stories, &c., now current in the Kentucky press, this item from the Richmond Register is worthy of perusal: "Mr. J. S. Scholer, a farmer living near Cottonburg, this county, is the possessor of a small rat dog which he has trained to worm tobacco. The dog goes to the field with the hands and seems to take special delight in killing the pests, which he noses around on the plants for, and when discovered bites their heads off. If a worm endeavors to escape by dropping on the ground, the dog hunts for it, and seldom lets it get away. Mr. Scholer says the dog has been as valuable to him in his tobacco crop this year as one of his hired hands."

—A successful puglist makes money hand over fist.